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107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 155

Expressing the sense of Congress that comprehensive Medicare modernization is a top priority of the 107th Congress.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 7, 2001

Mr. GREENWOOD (for himself, Mr. DOOLEY of California, and Ms. HART) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that comprehensive Medicare modernization is a top priority of the 107th Congress.

Whereas the Medicare program provides important health care coverage and life-saving services for our nation's senior citizens and the disabled;

Whereas today's senior citizens, the disabled and subsequent generations need and deserve the highest quality health care available;

Whereas the Medicare program has changed little fundamentally since its creation over 35 years ago and has not

kept pace with many of the rapid and dramatic improvements in health care delivery;

Whereas the current benefit and management structure of the Medicare program inhibits the flexibility to make new health care innovations and technologies more readily accessible to its beneficiaries;

Whereas the Medicare program is facing a financing crisis which much be addressed in order to ensure the continued success and financial integrity of the program;

Whereas Medicare beneficiaries should have the ability to choose from a range of coverage options that best suits their needs and provides coordination of care, health promotion, and disease prevention efforts; and

Whereas prescription drug coverage provided outside of true, comprehensive modernization should be viewed only as an interim step and not as a long-term final action to improve and strengthen the Medicare program: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—
3 (1) comprehensive modernization of the Medi-
4 care program could offer seniors and the disabled
5 more coverage choices, better benefits (including pre-
6 scription drugs), and access to the latest in innova-
7 tive medical practices and treatments;
8 (2) the need to include prescription drug cov-
9 erage in the Medicare program offers an opportunity

to move forward with comprehensive Medicare modernization; and

(3) a top priority of the 107th Congress should be to modernize and strengthen the Medicare program's financial and structural foundations for the future.

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